We claim:

1. A method of responding to a Cell or URA Update Confirm message received in a user equipment in a communications system, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a Cell or URA Update Confirm message;

determining whether the message places the user equipment in a state that requires a response prior to entering the state;

determining whether the message contains a new C-RNTI element; and

in the event that a response is required and that the message contains a new C-RNTI element, using the element to send a response message.

2. A method according to claim 1, further comprising, in the event that the message does not contain a new C-RNTI element, using an existing C-RNTI element to send the response message.

3. A method according to claim 1 or 2, comprising entering the state after sending the response message.

4. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the state comprises the CELL_PCH or URA_PCH state.

5. User equipment for providing a response to a Cell or URA Update Confirm message in a communications system, the equipment comprising:

means for receiving a Cell or URA Update Confirm message;

means for determining whether the message places the user equipment in a state that requires a response prior to entering the state;

means for determining whether the message contains a new C-RNTI element; and

in the event that a response is required and that the message contains a new C-RNTI element, means for sending a response message using the new C-RNTI element.

6. User equipment according to claim 5, wherein in the event that the message does not contain a new C-RNTI element, using an existing C-RNTI element for sending the response message.